

This record is a partial extract of the original cable. The full text of the original cable is not available.

221111Z Aug 05

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 AMMAN 006752

SIPDIS

ECA/PE/V/R/N (RREMEIKA); NEA/PPD (DBENZE); NEA/ELA

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [OEXC](#) [SCUL](#) [JO](#)

SUBJECT: FY 05 RP:"FOREIGN POLICY DECISION MAKING PROCESSES," APRIL 16 - MAY 7, 2005 - PROGRAM EVALUATION

1. FOLLOWING IS THE EVDB EVALUATION OF SUBJEC PROGRAM:

START FIXED-FORMAT TEXT (PLEASE DO NOT EDIT):

: THE FOLLOWING DATA IS IN A FIXED FORMAT WHICH ENABLES  
: AUTOMATED PROCESSING IN WASHINGTON AND SHOULD NOT BE  
: EDITED EXCEPT BY MEANS OF THE POST-EVDB SOFTWARE.

EXPORT-SOURCE: POST-EVDB

VERSION: 3.0.7

POST-EMAIL: ALDADAWM@STATE.GOV

TRANSMITTING-POST: PAS AMMAN

TRANSMITTING-POST-ID: 2887

EXPORT-TYPE: PROJECT EVALUATION

START PROJECT-EVAL-REC:

POST-PROJ-ID: 240

ECA-PROJ-NO: E/VGN-2005-0009

PROJ-NAME: FOREIGN POLICY DECISION MAKING PROCESSES - JORDAN

CPTHEME: DEMOCRACY AND HUMAN RIGHTS

START MEMO IMPACT:

MR. MOHAMMAD ABU RUMMAN BENEFITED GREATLY FROM THE PROGRAM. HE HAD BEEN TO THE UNITED STATES BEFORE TO STUDY ENGLISH IN MICHIGAN, BUT THIS PROGRAM EXPOSED HIM TO MUCH MORE OF AMERICAN SOCIETY AND ITS DIVERSITY AND DEPTH. HE ASSESSED THE PROGRAM AS VERY COMPREHENSIVE AND SAID IT WIDENED HIS PERSEPECTIVE OF THE UNITED STATES AND ITS FOREIGN POLICY PROCESS.

OVERALL, HE BENEFITED THE MOST FROM THE PROGRAM ACTIVITIES OUTSIDE OF WASHINGTON, DC, AND FROM THE NON-GOVERNMENTAL MEETINGS IN WASHINGTON, DC, AS THEY GAVE HIM A CHANCE TO LEARN ABOUT THE VARIOUS PARTS OF THE FOREIGN POLICY PROCESS THAT ARE NOT SO WELL-KNOWN. HE WAS SURPRISED AND IMPRESSED BY THE ACTIVE INTELLECTUAL DEBATE IN THE UNITED STATES ON FOREIGN POLICY ISSUES. HE FOUND THE MEETINGS WITH RELIGIOUS GROUPS, THE CONGRESSIONAL STAFFER, AND HARVARD PROFESSOR STEPHEN WALT VERY USEFUL. HE WAS ALSO ABLE TO ARRANGE A MEETING WHICH HE FOUND VERY HELPFUL WITH ALBERTO FERNANDEZ AT THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE ON U.S. POLICY AND APPROACH TOWARD ISLAMIST GROUPS.

HE DID NOT LIKE THE MEETINGS WITH THE AMERICA ISRAEL PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE (AIPAC) OR THE ARAB-AMERICAN ANTI-DISCRIMINATION COMMITTEE (ADC). HE FELT THAT THE AIPAC SPEAKER WAS UNDIPLOMATIC AND CONFRONTATIONAL AND NOT INTERESTED IN FOSTERING DISCUSSION. IN PARTICULAR, THE SPEAKER TALKED ABOUT THE GROUP'S POLITICAL VIEWS AND NOT ABOUT HOW THEY DO BUSINESS OR ARE PART OF THE FOREIGN POLICY PROCESS. THE ADC SPEAKER ALSO DID NOT ADDRESS ISSUES RELEVANT TO THEIR PROGRAM, AND ONLY TOUCHED ON SIDE ISSUES LIKE IMMIGRATION AND AIRPORT SECURITY, WITHOUT TALKING ABOUT THE ADC'S INTERESTS AND ROLE IN THE U.S. FOREIGN POLICY PROCESS.

MR. ABU RUMMAN ENJOYED THE INTERACTIONS WITH ORDINARY AMERICANS AND WAS DISAPPOINTED THAT HIS HOMESTAY WAS CANCELLED.

HE HAS KEPT IN TOUCH WITH MANY OF THE OTHER PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS. HE FELT THAT A FEW OF THEM WERE NOT WELL-SUITED TO THE PROGRAM AND THAT THIS WAS EMBARRASSING IN THEIR MEETINGS WHEN THESE PARTICIPANTS WOULD ASK BAD QUESTIONS.

END MEMO IMPACT:

START MEMO AUDIENCE-REACHED:

MR. MOHAMMAD ABU RUMMAN IS EDITORIAL PAGE EDITOR OF AL-GHAD ARABIC DAILY AND A WRITER/ANALYST AT AL-ASR ELECTRONIC MAGAZINE. HE ALSO CONTRIBUTES ARTICLES TO LONDON-BASED AL-BAYAN DAILY NEWSPAPER. HE IS AN IMPORTANT PRESS CONTACT IN JORDAN BUT ALSO AN INTELLECTUAL WHO HAS WRITTEN A NUMBER OF ARTICLES AND BOOKS ON REFORM IN THE ARAB WORLD, U.S. FOREIGN POLICY, AND ISLAMIST THOUGHT AND POLITICAL MOVEMENTS. HE WROTE FIVE ARTICLES ABOUT HIS VISIT TO AMERICA IN AL-GHAD AND OTHER NEWSPAPERS.

HE ALSO SERVES AS A PRESS ADVISOR TO THE MINISTER FOR AWQAF AFFAIRS, AND WILL ENCOURAGE THE MINISTER TO SEND A PROPOSAL TO THE EMBASSY TO DEVELOP A PROGRAM FOR JORDANIAN RELIGIOUS LEADERS TO TRAVEL TO THE UNITED STATES.

END MEMO AUDIENCE-REACHED:

ECA-PROGRAM-OFFICE-RATING: 5

START MEMO ECA-PROG-OFFICE-COMMENT:

END MEMO ECA-PROG-OFFICE-COMMENT:

PROGRAM-AGENCY-RATING: 5

START MEMO PROG-AGENCY-COMMENT:

HE SAID THE MERIDIAN INTERNATIONAL CENTER DID A GREAT JOB. HE WAS IMPRESSED BY AMBASSADOR KENTON KEITH WHO WAS A GOOD

HOST AND DID A GREAT JOB OF MODERATING DEBATES AND  
PRESENTING NEUTRAL OR INCLUSIVE OPINIONS IN OFTEN DIVISIVE  
SUBJECTS. ALL OF THE TRANSLATORS WERE EXCELLENT.  
END MEMO PROG-AGENCY-COMMENT:  
START ESCORT-INTERPRETER-EVALUATION:  
ESCORT-INTERPRETER: ROBYN REMEIKA  
RATING: 5  
START MEMO COMMENT:  
HE SAID ROBYN WAS VERY UP-TO-DATE ON HER INFORMATION AND DID  
A GOOD JOB DURING THE EVALUATION SESSION.  
END MEMO COMMENT:  
END ESCORT-INTERPRETER-EVALUATION:  
END PROJECT-EVAL-REC:

HENZEL